



# Broiler Hatchery

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## **Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 6 Percent**

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 193 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 4, 2012. This was down 6 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 85 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

## **Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Down 5 Percent**

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 160 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 4, 2012. Placements were down 5 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through February 4, 2012 were 807 million, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011 and 2012

State	Week ending					
	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012	January 14, 2012	January 21, 2012	January 28, 2012	February 4, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	27,562	28,078	27,840	28,025	27,962	26,916
Arkansas .....	20,187	20,082	20,085	20,073	20,235	19,931
Delaware .....	3,232	3,265	3,261	3,262	3,258	3,265
Florida .....	1,347	1,351	1,351	1,353	1,352	1,352
Georgia .....	31,839	31,430	31,386	31,148	31,630	30,927
Kentucky .....	7,634	7,545	7,664	7,643	7,389	7,655
Louisiana .....	3,348	3,364	3,379	3,440	3,424	3,440
Maryland .....	7,447	7,364	7,098	7,669	7,216	6,867
Mississippi .....	17,763	17,573	17,626	18,111	18,185	18,147
Missouri .....	7,433	7,853	7,623	7,677	7,668	7,784
North Carolina .....	19,927	19,760	19,790	19,988	19,952	20,206
Oklahoma .....	6,268	6,585	6,787	6,721	6,609	6,841
Pennsylvania .....	3,812	3,662	3,875	3,849	3,831	3,711
South Carolina .....	5,164	5,250	5,348	5,363	5,156	5,318
Texas .....	13,915	14,343	14,053	14,272	14,345	14,441
Virginia .....	5,909	5,694	5,939	6,231	5,698	5,985
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,577	10,010	10,479	9,376	10,478	10,247
19 State total .....	193,364	193,209	193,584	194,201	194,388	193,033
Previous year total .....	203,224	205,419	205,099	204,116	203,933	205,787
Percent of previous year .....	95	94	94	95	95	94

## Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011 and 2012

State	Week ending					
	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012	January 14, 2012	January 21, 2012	January 28, 2012	February 4, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	20,811	20,132	19,898	20,265	20,298	19,730
Arkansas .....	20,378	19,296	18,012	18,621	19,924	20,438
Delaware .....	4,385	3,952	4,547	3,901	4,431	4,082
Florida .....	1,160	1,160	1,160	953	1,136	1,149
Georgia .....	26,917	26,997	27,346	26,950	27,019	26,053
Kentucky .....	6,378	6,098	6,021	6,219	6,646	5,839
Louisiana .....	2,943	2,987	2,992	2,995	3,010	3,023
Maryland .....	5,968	5,474	6,060	6,386	5,518	5,790
Mississippi .....	15,407	15,542	15,594	15,053	15,037	15,122
Missouri .....	5,004	5,554	6,087	4,913	5,036	4,932
North Carolina .....	15,635	15,439	15,738	15,698	15,780	15,699
Oklahoma .....	3,746	4,042	4,693	4,691	3,943	3,220
Pennsylvania .....	3,134	3,196	3,136	3,179	3,065	3,229
South Carolina .....	4,115	4,828	4,435	4,221	4,124	4,956
Texas .....	11,848	11,964	11,794	11,770	11,809	11,575
Virginia .....	4,710	5,698	4,693	4,844	4,785	5,164
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,364	9,509	10,772	10,296	9,565	10,319
19 State total .....	162,903	161,868	162,978	160,955	161,126	160,320
Previous year total .....	168,813	168,417	168,220	167,507	168,493	168,151
Percent of previous year .....	96	96	97	96	96	95

Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all chicken hatcheries within the 19 States that hatch at least one million chicks a year. The 19 States account for approximately 97 percent of the broilers produced on an annual basis. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All hatcheries within the 19 States that meet the minimum size criteria are given adequate time to respond to the weekly survey. Those that do not respond are contacted by telephone.

**Estimating Procedures:** All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State and 19 State totals.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions made to the previous five-week’s data during the current week are published in this report. Final estimates are published in the annual *Hatchery Production Summary* released in April.

**Reliability:** Estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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